MARVEL COMICS

DEADPOOL

APR '97 4

DEADPOOL®

DEADPOOL SMASH!

VERSUS

THE HULK

DIRECT EDITION

7 59606 03703 2 00411

$1.95 US $2.75 CAN

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Hey, look! It's **Wade Wilson**, a.k.a **Deadpool**, the mercenary you just can't help but love! Aside from being an obnoxious loudmouth, 'Pool is a pretty darned good fighter (one of the best there is, in fact). Also aiding him in his acts of mayhem is the artificially enhanced healing factor that enables his body to repair almost any wound. Deadpool can always be found wherever the money pays the best, although sometimes, his conscience overwhelms his greed and he suffers from a bout of... well... decency. (shudder)

This lovely young lass is **Teresa Rourke** a.k.a **Siryn**, the deputy leader of X-Force! Siryn has the mutant gift to generate powerful sonic effects using only her Irish brogued voice. Although her ideals are about as extreme from Deadpool's as you could imagine, even she cannot deny the sparks that often flicker between them. Could a wholesome do-gooder like Siryn find love with a disreputable scoundrel like Deadpool? Read the book!

And here we have the rotund **Dr. Killbrew**. Doc K. is one of the scientists who "worked on" Deadpool in the Weapon X project, the Canadian government's super hero program. Killbrew was one of the men responsible for curing Deadpool of cancer and endowing him with his healing factor. One doctor's experiments are another victim's torture, however, and the good doctor is very lucky Deadpool hasn't exposed him to a little experimenting of his own.

Next up is Deadpool's visually-challenged confidant, **Blind Alfred**. Although her origins remain unclear, it is obvious that Wade's prisoner/roommate has a very strong influence on him, usually for the better. And whether he likes it or not, Al's strength of will is more than a match for Deadpool's wise-cracking personality.

RECENTLY, IN "DEADPOOL"...

While trying to grow back the finger he lost in issue #2, Deadpool received a taunting note from his old foe, **Black Tom Cassidy**. Hopping mad, Deadpool decided to pursue the bearded guy with a bad accent. At Blind Alfred's suggestion, Deadpool hooked up with Black Tom's niece (and, as fate would have it, the object of Deadpool's affections), Siryn.

Not exactly what you'd call a normal date, but then, Deadpool's not a normal guy.

Together, Deadpool and Siryn traced Black Tom's note back to a mysterious cabin in the Swiss Alps, only to find that it was Doctor Killbrew who had lured them there. After convincing Deadpool not to kill him on the spot, Killbrew informed the merc that his healing factor was rapidly deteriorating, hence his current, fingerless state.

Using her level headed logic (or was it her feminine wiles?), Siryn was able to convince Deadpool to give Killbrew a chance to explain himself. Driven by guilt over what he did to Deadpool in the past, Killbrew lured 'Pool to his cabin to try and save his life.

"Save his life?" you say? Why yes, 'cause Deadpool's healing factor isn't just breaking down. Nah, it's also devouring him from the inside out! (And if you think that's yucky, just wait till you see what Deadpool has to do to fix himself up!) Which brings us to the present...

Stan Lee PRESENTS

WHY IS IT, TO SAVE ME, I MUST KILL YOU?

HELLO READERS, I'M *DOCTOR KILLBREW*, ONE-TIME *MAD SCIENTIST* FOR THE *CANADIAN GOVERNMENT*, CURRENTLY TRYING TO *ATONE* FOR MY PAST SINS.

I'VE STARTED WITH THE *ONE* PERSON WHOSE LIFE I PROBABLY RAVAGED MOST... *DEADPOOL.*

NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR DOCTOR/PATIENT RELATIONSHIP IS A TAD... *STRAINED.*

NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'M PRACTICING LOOKING *GRIM* FOR MY NEXT SCENE, SO IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

TOP O' THE MORN' TO YE. I'M *TERESA ROURKE*, AKA *SIRYN*, JUNIOR LEADER OF *X-FORCE* AN' SOMETIME *FOIL* FOR OUR ANTI-HERO HERE.

I'VE TAGGED ALONG WITH *WADE* —

— HE LETS ME CALL HIM THAT —

— T'THE DOCTOR'S *SECRET* BASE, AN' JUST LEARNED THAT DEADPOOL MAY BE *DYING.*

THIS IS *ESPECIALLY* TOUGH FOR ME T'HEAR, CAUSE EVEN THOUGH WADE *LIVES* TO BREAK MY SHOES...

...I... I *SORT* OF HAVE *FEELINGS* FOR HIM...

...I *THINK*...

IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM, *TRUE BELIEVER*, THEN GO PLAY IN TRAFFIC!

SEE THE *BLOAT* IN THE *LABCOAT*? I WANNA *GUT* HIM FOR MAKING ME INTO THE *MONSTER* I AM TODAY —

— BUT HE'S THE *ONLY* CHANCE I GOT AT SAVIN' MY *SKIN.*

THE *REDHEAD*? WELL, *HER* I KINDA... I-I... Y'KNOW... I KIND OF THINK SHE'S... LIKE...

...AW, I AIN'T GONNA SAY IT TO *YOU!* JUST TURN THE *@#$%&** PAGE AN' LET'S GET TO THE *DRAMA!*

In absentia, Deadpool's middle finger, cut off in issue two, currently chilling out in a trailer, sipping mineral water.

DEADPOOL™ Vol. 1, No. 4, April, 1997. Published by MARVEL COMICS. David J. Schreff, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Shirrel Rhoades, Executive VP, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **Application to mail Periodicals Postage Rates is pending at New York, NY and at Additional Mailing Offices.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1997 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.99 per copy in the U.S. and $2.75 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $23.88; foreign $35.88; and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in ■■ magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DEADPOOL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DEADPOOL, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. Printed in the U.S.A.**

AFTER AN EXHAUSTIVE DIAGNOSTIC SCAN OF DEADPOOL'S BODY PARTS IN THE CELLAR OF KILLBREW'S HIDDEN LABORATORY...

YOU CAN COME OUT OF THE TRENCH NOW, WILSON...

...I... I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED...

AH! AT LAST! THE TRANSFORMATION IS COMPLETE!

FOR YEARS THEY MOCKED ME! TOOK THE NAME EMMANUEL LEWIS IN VAIN! BUT TONIGHT, RETRIBUTION WILL BE MINE!

FOR I AM REBORN — AS WEBSTER, THE ADORABLE SCAMP OF DOOM!

MA'AMS AND GEORGES BEWARE! WEBSTER WALKS THE EARTH, AND HE'S GOT A HANKERIN' FOR SOME SPANKERIN'!

MAN, DID I NAIL THIS MAD DOCTOR ROUTINE OR WHAT?

ONLY YE WOULD PLAY CHILLER THEATRE 'T A TIME LIKE THIS...

COME ON, TERRY! THAT WHOLE "WILSON, YOU'RE DYING" BIT WAS JUST KILLBREW'S CLEVER PRETEXT TO GET ME INTO THAT SCANNIE-BOX AND SEE ME NAKED...

WILSON, PLEASE... I HAVE THE RESULTS.

AS I'D FEARED, IT'S NOT JUST YOUR HEALING FACTOR THAT'S BROKEN DOWN... IT'S EVERYTHING...

YOU MEAN... I'M LOSING MY UNCANNY KNACK TO TELL THE OLSEN TWINS APART?

YOUR BODY CHEMISTRY IS COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY BREAKING DOWN...

I WAS ALWAYS BETTER AT HOME EC THAN CHEMISTRY...

...FIRST, YOUR HEALING FACTOR WILL GO KAPUT... AND ONCE THAT GOES...

WAITAMINUTE... THE HEALING FACTOR IS ALL THAT KEEPS ME FROM HAVING...

A CANCER RELAPSE... VERY MALIGNANT... VERY UNTREATABLE...

I'M SORRY, WILSON.

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING... I STILL HAVE A TEN YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO "*REALLY BIG GUNS QUARTERLY*"... WHAT A BUZZKILL.

WAIT... MAYBE I'M GRASPING AT STRAWS HERE, BUT THERE *MIGHT* BE A WAY TO STOP THE DEGENERATION PROCESS...

YOU WOULDN'T JUST BE *SAYING* THAT SO I DON'T TURN YOUR INNARDS INTO *CROUTONS*, WOULD YOU, SAWBONES?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WILSON, I *DO* STILL HAVE A MODICUM OF *INTEGRITY* LEFT IN THIS OLD BODY.

THE *MAJORITY* OF YOUR CELLS ARE BREAKING DOWN, BUT THERE ARE SOME THAT ARE UNCHARACTERISTICALLY *STABLE*.

ONE WOULD ALMOST THINK...

...WADE, HAVE YOU BEEN EXPOSED TO ANYTHING *UNUSUAL* LATELY?

HMM, LET'S SEE... THERE WAS THAT "*IMPOSSIBLE CHEESEBURGER PIE*" THAT AL WHIPPED UP LAST WEEK...

WHO'S AL?

MIND YER *P'S AND Q'S*, SISTER...

MY NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR WAS BLASTING *YANNI* AT THREE A.M.... HE EATS THROUGH A *TUBE* NOW...

OH. AND THERE WAS THAT LITTLE *GAMMA RADIATION* THING DOWN IN *ANTARCTICA*...

ANTARCTICA? WHAT WERE YE DOIN' IN ANTARCTICA?!

GAMMA RADIATION?

I SORT OF *BLEW UP* A CANADIAN RESEARCH FACILITY THAT ABSORBED *AMBIENT RADIATION* FROM THE ATMOSPHERE...❶

IT WAS NO BIG *WHOOP*. I HAVE POLAROIDS...

❶ Issue #1. Our first intra-series continuity! Yay! --Matt

SHOULD I E'EN *BOTHER* T'ASK... ... OR IS IT A GUY THING?

HMMPF! OBVIOUSLY, YOU CAN'T GRASP THE *SUBTLETIES* OF MY *WORK.*

I *PITY* YOU, *PHILISTINE...*

ADDING *GAMMA RADIATION* INTO THE *SIMULATION*... ASSUME INTRACELLULAR INDUCTION...

BY FERMI, THAT'S IT!

SOMEHOW, THE GAMMA RADIATION SLOWED DOWN YOUR CELLULAR DEGENERATION!

...PROVIDING *EVEN* DISTRIBUTION OF ENERGY THROUGHOUT YOUR BODY... THEORETICALLY, WE COULD *HEAL ALL* OF YOUR CELLS!

CATCH IS, THE RADIATION NEEDS TO BE *ATTACHED* TO AN *ORGANIC* BASE IN ORDER TO *"PIGGY-BACK"* ITS WAY INTO YOUR SYSTEM WITHOUT *KILLING* YOU OUTRIGHT.

COOL! SO SCURRY OFF TO *DAIRY BARN* AND BOIL ME UP A HALF GALLON OF *TWO PERCENT.*

EVEN IF I *HAD* THE RESOURCES, TO *SYNTHESIZE* THE MEDIUM WOULD TAKE *YEARS.*

YEAH? WELL, IT WAS ALSO THE GAMMA RADIATION THAT DELIVERED UNTO ME A SERIOUS *TAIL WHUPPIN'!*

YOU CAN STILL SEE THE RADIOACTIVE FOOTPRINTS... GO ON... *LOOK...*

I'M NOT SUGGESTING ANOTHER *GROSS* EXPOSURE, WILSON. PERHAPS IF WE BATHE YOUR *INSIDES* WITH GAMMA-IRRADIATED FLUID...

HOWEVER... Um... AN ACCEPTABLE FORM OF THE MATERIAL IN QUESTION MAY *ALREADY* EXIST...

KTHUNK

WHERE?

QUICKLY NOW... BEFORE I MAKE AN ASHTRAY OUT OF YOUR *PANCREAS.*

"LAST I HEARD, *HE* APPROPRIATED AN ISLAND IN THE *FLORIDA KEYS...*

"Onslaught", what's an "Onslaught?" -- Facetious Matt

"... I'VE BEEN KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON HIM... WELL, *EVERYONE* HAS SINCE THE WHOLE *ONSLAUGHT* THING..."

"PERSONALLY, I THINK THAT THE *MILITARY* IS HANDLING THE SITUATION *POORLY*..."

"*FLORIDA?* REALLY, IN *MY* CONDITION, SHOULDN'T I STAY *OUT* OF THE SUN?"

"HE HASN'T *HARMED* ANYONE... NOT PERSONALLY AT LEAST.

"THOUGH THE MATERIAL *DESTRUCTION* HAS BEEN *PHENOMENAL.*"

"I DON'T THINK I LIKE THIS TRAIN OF THOUGHT, KILLBREW...

"...JUST WHO... EXACTLY... ARE WE TALKIN' 'BOUT HERE?"

"*GAMMA RAYS... BLOODSTREAM... MASSIVE* PROPERTY DAMAGE...

"ISN'T IT *OBVIOUS?*●"

● For more info on our mysterious guest-star, see the cover. -- Matt

ONE SHORT (AND VERY RELUCTANT) PLANE RIDE LATER...

NOOO @#$%&* WAY! FORGET IT! NOT ON YOUR LIFE!

MEASURE ME UP FOR THE OL' *PINEWOOD* SLEEPING BAG! BRING ON THE *FLOWERS* AND HANG THE FLAG AT *HALFMAST*...

CALL THE GRIM REAPER, *COLLECT!* STICK A *FORK* IN ME 'CAUSE I AM OFFICIALLY *D-U-N,* DONE!

WADE, STUFF A SOCK IN IT ALREADY! YE'VE BEEN *BELLY-ACHIN'* SINCE WE LEFT THE *ALPS!*

SOMEONE MIGHT START T'THINK THAT YER A *WEE BIT SCARED.*

NO *SHINOLA,* I'M SCARED! THIS IS THE *INCREDIBLE HULK* HERE!

DOC *BRUCE BANNER,* PELTED BY GAMMA RAYS, *TURNED* INTO THE HULK --

-- AIN'T HE UNGLAMOROUS?!? THE FREAKIN' *HULK!*

WHEN'S THE LAST TIME *YOU* WENT HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH A RAVING *MONSTROSITY* LIKE THAT?

DOES THE *JUGGERNAUT* COUNT?

THE *JUGGERNAUT?* COMPARED TO THE *HULK?!*

YOU OUGHTA LAY OFF THE *GLUE* FOR A WHILE, BABE... IT'S MESSING UP YOUR *PERCEPTIONS* --

WILSON, THIS IS REALLY QUITE *ELEMENTARY.* THE HULK'S BLOOD HAS ALL THE REQUISITE QUALITIES FOR YOUR *TREATMENT.*

IF YOU WANT TO *LIVE,* YOU'LL GET A SAMPLE OF HIS *BLOOD.*

FIRST OFF, *KILLJOY,* GET YOUR HANDS OFF OF ME.

TO BE HONEST, I EXPECT THE WHOLE PROCEDURE TO BE QUITE... *STIMULATING*, FOR BOTH OF US... LIKE *OLD* TIMES. NOW PUT THIS ON --

"OLD TIMES"? KILLBREW, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS NICELY, SO I WON'T...

BACK OFF *BEFORE I GUT YOU, YOU FAT* **SLOB!**

WADE! HAVE YE GONE DAFT?!

I WON'T LET YOU TREAT ME LIKE AN *EXPERIMENT!* NOT LIKE BEFORE! I --

... DEEP BREATHS. *REALITY* CHECK... THIS *ISN'T* THE WORKSHOP. I AM IN CONTROL. THIS IS IN THE *FRIENDLY* SKIES... HEH HEH...

HOW *EMBARASSKIN'*.

WILSON? ARE YOU --

WHAT ARE YE DOIN' TO HIM, KILLBREW?!

NOTHING! I WAS JUST GOING TO APPLY THESE *SENSORS* TO MONITOR --

I'LL DO IT. YE'D BE BETTER OFF ON THE *OTHER* SIDE O' THE PLANE.

BUT --

THA' WAS NAE A REQUEST.

HEY *SCRAPPER...* ARE YE BACK WITH US YET, OR STILL OFF IN *LA-LA* LAND?

I'M HERE, RED... QUIETLY HOPING THAT YOU FIND *PSYCHOTIC* EPISODES *CHARMING*...

WHOA, IT WAS... HIS TONE OF *VOICE*... CATAPULTED ME BACK...

...REMINDED ME OF WHEN WE MET... IN *WEAPON X*... BACK IN THE *'SHOP* --

SHH... YE DON' *HAVE* T'EXPLAIN Y'RSELF, WADE... I C'N *IMAGINE* HOW HARD THIS MUST BE FOR YE.

SOON AS THIS IS OVER, I *PROMISE* WE'LL SCOOT BACK T'AMERICA AN' *FORGET* WE E'ER *HEARD* THE NAME *KILLBREW.*

I... I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'LL BE *ENOUGH,* TERRY.

WHAT? WHY NOT?

IT'S JUST NOT THAT *SIMPLE.* YOU LOOK AT HIM AND SEE WILFORD BRIMLEY, BUT WHEN *I* LOOK...

...I SEE MY *NIGHTMARES* COME TO LIFE.

I LOOK INTO HIS EYES AND REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE... NOT TO FEEL *HUMAN*... TO EXIST PURELY AS *MEAT*...

...THERE'S ONLY *ONE* WAY FOR ME TO PURGE THE *GHOST* OF HIM FROM MY MIND... MY *LIFE*...

...*PERMANENTLY*... AND WITH *EXTREME* MALICE.

I *DON'T* FORGIVE AND FORGET... EVEN IF *YOU* WANT ME TO.

IT DOESN'T HAVE ▪NYTHING T'DO WITH *ME*, WADE... YE SHOULDN'T DO IT CAUSE IT'S *NAE RIGHT.*

KILLBREW THREW IT ALL ON THE LINE *T'HELP* YE. THAT OUGHTA COUNT F'R *SOMETHIN'.*

SURE, YE C'N *NEVER FORGET* WHAT HAPPENED, BUT YE CANNAE LET IT DEFINE Y'R LIFE!

IF WE DON'T LET OUR DEMONS GO, WADE, WE *BECOME* THEM.

I HEAR YA, RED... MERC'S HONOR... BUT IT'S JUST NICE WORDS.

AFTER THIS IS OVER AN' I BEEN CURED, GET *CLEAR* OF ME AN' KILLBREW...

...UNLESS YOU WANT TO GET *BLOODY.*

Y'KNOW SOMETHING, WILSON... JUST WHEN I THINK THAT I MIGHT BE GETTING INSIDE YOUR HEAD...

...YOU ROYALLY SCREW THINGS UP.

Um... GANG?

WE'VE GOT HIM.

DUCK KEY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ISLAND OF AFFLUENCE. A PLACE WHERE THE ELITE MEET TO RETREAT.

IN RECENT WEEKS, HOWEVER, IT'S PROPERTY VALUE HAS PLUMMETED... SHARPLY.

A NATURAL DISASTER WILL DO THAT TO AN ISLAND. ESPECIALLY IF IT WALKS UPRIGHT.

THE ENIGMATIC BRUTE KNOWN AS THE INCREDIBLE HULK HAS SEIZED THIS SWATCH OF BEACH AS A PLACE OF HIS OWN.

A SPECIAL PLACE, ISOLATED FROM THE REST OF CIVILIZATION. A PLACE TO THINK. A PLACE TO CONSIDER THE RAPID DETERIORATION OF HIS VERY BEING. A PLACE QUITE SIMPLY...

...WHERE HE CAN BE LEFT ALONE.

◊ See recent issues of the Hulk for the full scoop on his medical problems -- E.R. Matt

NEXT, HE HOPES TO STOP THE WORLD FROM SPINNING.

THE HATCH IS OPEN, COMLINK IS OPERATIONAL... I'M READY WHEN'ER YE ARE, WADE.

WADE? WADE, WE'RE ABOUT T'OVER-SHOOT THE TARGET...

WADE!

I'M SORRY. DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

I WAS JUST PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON MY WILL.

YOU GET MY COLLECTION OF COASTERS AND MY LORI PARTRIDGE PILLOWCASE.

AND WITHOUT FURTHER A DOO-DOO...

ONE PINT OF BLOOD CAN SAVE *FIVE* LIVES... ALTHOUGH IN YOUR CASE, IT'LL ONLY BE ONE... *MINE!*

TIME TO MAKE THE DONUTS!

YOU WERE EXPECTING MAYBE FOR ME TO YELL "SPOON"?

EXCUSE ME, SIR? I REPRESENT THE *CANADIAN EX-BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION*, AND IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL *BLOOD DRIVE!*

GO AWAY.

CLUD

IF YOU'RE A *GOOD* MONSTROSITY, AFTER THE DONATION WE'LL MIX YOU UP A NICE GLASS OF ORANGE-FLAVORED DRINK AND PUMP YOU FULL OF STALE *MALLOMARS!*

GO AWAY, OR *DIE*. YOUR CHOICE.

WON'T THAT BE PEACHY?

FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION *DYING*, HULK... UH *SIR*...

...I'M A MAN IN NEED, INDEED. I ONLY USED YOU FOR A LANDING PAD TO GET YOUR ATTENTION.

WE WOULDN'T WANT YOU *WANDERING* INTO "*HULK SMASH*" LAND WHILE WE'RE HAVING A *CIVILIZED* CHAT, NOW *WOULD* WE?

PROBABLY NOT... *OOPS*, TOO LATE.

WADE!

OCH! I SWEAR THAT MAN IS GONNA BE THE *DEATH* O' ME!

SEE? HULK SMASH.

SMASH!

Hmm. YOU'RE A FAST ONE. *CONGRATULATION* --

-- NOW YOU HAVE A *STORY* TO TELL THE *IDIOTS* BACK HOME.

LEAVE WHILE YOU STILL HAVE A *JAW* TO SPEAK WITH.

NO CAN DO, HULKSTER. I NEED *YOUR* HEART JUICE SO'S MY *BLOODPUMP'LL* KEEP UP ITS FUNKY DISCO BEAT!

BESIDES, I'M TRYIN' TO IMPRESS A *CHICK*, AND KICKIN' YOUR UGLY BUTT INTO NEXT SEASON WOULD SCORE ME A *TEN* ON THE *MACHISMO-METER!*

SO SIT BACK, RELAX, AND THINK OF ME AS YOUR VERY OWN *"BARBER OF SEVILLE"* --

-- OH, I MEAN *"SWEENY TODD"*. I ALWAYS MIX UP MY MUSICAL METAPHORS...

SKLITCH

I SUPPOSE YOU THOUGHT THAT WAS A GOOD SHOT?

WELL, I'VE MADE BETTER, BUT YOU'VE GOTTA ADMIT, IT IS PRETTY DEEP.

MAYBE... BUT THE TRICK ISN'T CUTTING THE HULK...

... IT'S GETTING THE HULK TO STAY CUT!

EWWW... THAT'S PLAIN NASTY! I THINK I'M GONNA PUKE.

GUESS YOU NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HEMORRHOIDS, HUH?

SHUT UP, YOU *TWERP!* SHUT UP!

YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO LEAVE UNDER YOUR OWN STEAM, AND YOU DIDN'T TAKE IT!

YOU HAVE BROKEN THE *LAW* OF MY ISLAND! YOU ARE GUILTY, AND THERE IS ONLY ONE PUNISHMENT FOR THE GUILTY HERE!

COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE GIRLS' LOCKER ROOM?

Y'KNOW, AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN, I FEEL COMPELLED TO TELL YOU THAT TRIPLE-A IS NOT GOING TO BE HAPPY WITH YOU IF YOU THROW THAT.

POOR LITTLE LUV BUG.

ARRGH!

NOW WHAT?!

PKOW

Ms. ROURKE, NOT TO BE A *BACKSEAT PILOT*...

... BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK WE NEED TO GET SO... *CLOSE* TO HELP OUR LITTLE FRIEND --?

ZIP IT, KILLBREW!

IF'N I DINNAE HAVE TO *BABYSIT* YE, DEADPOOL WOULDN'T *NEED* AIR SUPPORT!

NOW *SHUT UP*, OR I'M GONNA GIVE YE A ONE-WAY LESSON IN *GRAVITY!*

FRIENDS OF YOURS, LITTLE MAN? FIGURES...

... NO ONE GOES UP AGAINST THE HULK ALONE

HEY, YOU! IN THE PLANE! IN [redacted] YOU HAVEN'T [redacted] PAYING ATTENTION --

WAIT! HULK! OVER HERE! YOO-HOO!

TERESA!

NO TRESPASSING *ALLOWED!*

OH GOD! OH GOD! *INCOMING!*

YE'RE A LIVIN' TESTAMENT TO GRACE UNDER FIRE, *KILLBREW.*

WHSSHH

DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YE DIFFERENT.

YOU JOLLY GREEN MOUTH-BREATHER! THERE'S SOME PRIME GRADE-A CUT FLYING THAT PLANE!

IF YOU WERE TO BRUISE, MAIM, FLAY OR OTHERWISE DISHEVEL SAID MERCHANDISE —

— THERE WOULD BE SOME MAJOR HECK-SPELLED-WITH-TWO-L'S TO PAY!

SQUEEK

YOU MUST HAVE ME CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE [redacted]

ACTUALLY, I HAD YOU CONFUSED WITH THAT *OTHER* HULK BEFORE --

— BUT YOUR LACK OF A POORLY MANICURED GOATEE AND HULKAMANIA HEADBAND WAS A DEAD GIVEAWAY.

I DON'T GIVE A *SQUAT* ABOUT *ANYONE* BUT *ME!* CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?!

WHOULFF!

WHAM

OR DO I HAVE TO POUND IT INTO YOU?!

KPSSHH

HEY... ARE YOU LIKE... A *MODEL?* WOW...

SO... WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER THE BLOODBATH? ME? OH, I'M GOING TO TEND TO A FEW COMPOUND FRACTURES... WAIT FOR A SPLEEN TRANSPLANT, THE USUAL...

THE QUIET TYPE, HUH? I LIKE THAT IN A MANNEQUIN...

YOU SAY YOU'RE *DYING? GOOD!* MORE *AIR* FOR THE REST OF US!

IF YOU [redacted] WORTH YOUR SALT, YOU'D HAVE THE *COMMON DECENCY* TO GO SOMEWHERE QUIET AND DIE WITH *DIGNITY!*

BUT APPARENTLY, YOU'RE GONNA *DIE* THE WAY YOU *LIVED* -- A *LOSER!*

CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER LOVE TAP LIKE THAT... GOTTA GET THE GOODS AND HUSTLE OUT OF HERE, ASAP!

BUT THE HULK HAS NO INTENTION OF GOING SOFTLY INTO THAT DARK NIGHT, AND I CAN'T GET A BLADE IN EDGEWISE!

WHAT I NEED IS A ZANY, MADCAP SCHEME THAT'S JUST CRAZY ENOUGH TO WORK!

HMMMM...

THAT'S HOW IT WORKS...

... THAT'S HOW IT'S ALWAYS WORKED.

WE GO OUT AS WE'VE LIVED --

-- SUFFERING.

ANGRY AT THE GREAT JOKE.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY... ALONE.

OHHH HULKIEEE!

HERE'S A TIP FROM THE SUPER-SCHMOE'S HANDBOOK: DON'T JUMP SO HIGH IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT.

GIVES YOUR OPPONENT PLENTY O' TIME TO SET TRAPS.

ONE WAY

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'M GOING TO MOVE SO YOU CAN HAVE SPLATTY-TIME.

SCRAPE

THIS SCENE HAS BEEN CENSORED TO PROTECT OUR MORE SENSITIVE READERS

YOU IDIOT! A BROKEN PIPE CAN'T HURT —

AHH, THE SWEET STENCH OF FRESHLY SPILLED BLOOD!

TAKES ME BACK TO MY DAYS IN NURSERY SCHOOL. OH HAPPY, HAPPY DAYS.

ON BEHALF OF MY NERVOUS SYSTEM, MY LYMPH NODES AND MY GALL-BLADDER, THANK YOU, HULKIE POOH, YOU'RE A REAL MENSCH!

WAITAMINUTE.

YOU JUST GOT YOURSELF IMPALED ON A *STREET* SIGN... GOVERNMENT ISSUE, NO LESS...

THAT AIN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN TO THE HULK! LEAST NOT ACCORDING TO MY FUNK'N' WAGNALS.

DON'T GET ME WRONG, I'M NOT COMPLAININ' CAUSE I SORT OF WON HERE... BUT WHAT GIVES?

=HUFF= MAYBE... =HUFF= IT'S JUST YOUR LUCKY DAY, FREAK...

...OR MAYBE... YOU'RE NOT THE =HURFF= ONLY ONE... WITH *PROBLEMS*.

OH... ANYTHING SERIOUS?

YOU CARE?

NOT PARTICULARLY, BUT IF YOU'RE SICK, MAYBE YOU OUGHTA GET OFFA THIS ISLAND AND GO SEE A DOCTOR.

IT'S REAL EASY WHEN YOU'VE GOT A *TELEPORTER*... SEE?

NORMALLY I WOULDN'T HAVE TO GO *THAT* FAR...

...BUT THE DOCTOR'S NO LONGER IN THE HOUSE.

THINK FAST, KILLBREW!

WILSON! BE CAREFUL!

LET'S HAUL OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE HULK REMEMBERS HE CAN REDUCE THIS WHOLE PLANE TA *SCRAP*.

LOOK AT HIM... JUST STANDIN' THERE...

... D'YE YE THINK THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM?

NOT THAT THERE'S REALLY ANYTHING *RIGHT* WITH HIM, BUT YEAH, SOMETHIN'S UP.

WHO'S GOING TO HELP HIM, THEN? WHO HELPS THE HULK?

I DUNNO... WITH A PERSONALITY LIKE THAT, WOULD YOU?

=AHEM= I'M *HELPING* YOU, AREN'T I, MISTER PERSONALITY?

YEAH... BUT I'M DYING AND WITTY... AND A SNAPPY DRESSER.

HE'S JUST A BIG MONSTER.

ONE TRANS-OCEANIC JAUNT LATER, BACK IN THE ALPS...

WHOOM

NO SIR, NO WAY, NO HOW ARE YOU STICKIN' THAT IN *ME!*

SEND ME BACK TO HULK ISLAND! MAYBE IT'LL WORK IF HE JUST *SWEATS* ON ME!

REALLY, WILSON, YOU'VE HAD MORE STAB WOUNDS THAN I HAVE HAIRS ON MY *HEAD!*

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE *SCARED* OF A LITTLE NEEDLE?

JUST SCREAM IT OUT FROM THE ROOFTOPS, WHY DON'T YOU? SSHHH!

NEXT THING YOU KNOW, HE'LL TELL EVERYONE THAT I DON'T LIKE TO CHANGE IN PUBLIC LOCKER ROOMS...

JUST SIT STILL --

COME ON, WADE. BE A BIG BOY AN' WE'LL GIVE YE A LOLLYPOP!

A SUCKER? MMMM —?

GET YER MIND OUTTA THE GUTTER, MERC.

POINK

HEY! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COUNT OF THREE?!

DISTRACTION. IT'S AN OLD PEDIATRICS TRICK... KEEPS THE MUSCLES RELAXED.

I KILLED MY PEDIATRICIAN WITH A TONGUE DEPRESSOR.

OKAY... YEAH, THAT DIDN'T HURT... REALLY. IT DIDN'T.

I KNOW IT DIDN'T, WILSON. YOU WERE VERY BRAVE.

YEAH, BRAVE... WHERE'S MY LOLLY?

OR, HE ASKED SUSPICIOUSLY, WHERE'S MY FINGER?

PATIENCE, WILSON. I PROMISED YOU A MIRACLE...

...BUT EVEN *I* CAN'T SPEED UP TIME!

WE'LL MONITOR YOU THROUGHOUT THE EVENING AND MAKE SURE YOUR SYSTEM HAS ACCEPTED THE INJECTION.

I'M CONFIDENT THAT THE PROCEDURE WILL BE A SUCCESS... BUT IF YOU'RE PARTIAL TO RELIGION, FOLKS...

...NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR PRAYER.

I ALREADY HAVE A CALL OUT TO THE MAN UPSTAIRS, DOC...

...BUT WADE HAS MY COMPLETE FAITH... AS DO YOU, DOCTOR.

THANKS, RED... I *MEAN* THAT.

A KELLY • MCGUINNESS • MASSENGILL • PAINE
STARKINGS • COMICRAFT/KF • IDELSON
IN-THE-GOOD-NAME-OF-HARRAS-PRODUCTION!

I PROMISE I WON'T LET YOU DOWN...

...I MEAN, EXCEPT FOR THAT PART WHERE I SLIT THE FAT BOY OPEN FROM END TO END.

I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND.

to be continued!

DEADLINES

DESIGN BY COMICHART

DEADPOOL LETTER COLUMN: DEADLINES

March 1997

Hey, everyone! Great to see you back again this issue! We've been getting tons of letters, and since we obviously receive e-mail a lot quicker than regular mail, our last letters page was filled with e-mailed letters. But fear not, we're devoting our entire letters page this month to those of our fans who are "modem impaired." Read on, folks!

My Dearest *Deadlines*,

When the first DEADPOOL mini-series came out, I thought it was brilliant. When the second was released, I found it to be a bit of a disappointment. When I picked up the on-going series, I felt it to be somewhere between the two extremes.

As I first began reading the newest DEADPOOL #1, I thought, "Who is this artist? He's pretty good!" Then I proceeded to peruse further. A few more pages along, I thought, "Who *is* this writer? His dialogue is incredible!" Needless to say, I now have the names of Ed McGuinness and Joe Kelly burned into my cranium. They've earned it.

As far as overall plot and story line go, I'm postponing any immediate decisions. It has been interesting so far, but a truly good comic needs more than an engaging opening — it needs dependable enjoyment. I need to know that I'm not going to be buying something that could "hit or miss" every month.

This leads me to what I expect from the ongoing DEADPOOL title. First of all I hope that—despite what I expect to be many fan requests—the crossing over into other mutant titles remains a bare minimum. I think the focus should stay on Deadpool and grow from there, not develop from characters and villains that have made their mark elsewhere. Yes, I understand that Siryn will probably end up as a peripheral character, but there is no need to drag everyone else in the X-universe along with her—that would only give DEADPOOL more continuity/history baggage than a fresh new title deserves.

I've also become a bit irritated of late at Deadpool's unmasked appearance. Back when his visage was first revealed, he looked quite appalling with his head covered in lumpy tumors and cysts; this explained a lot about the character and why he was the way he was. Recently, though, he's come to appear more like someone with dry, cracked skin. It loses its impact when he looks no worse than a teenager with bad acne.

My views may well differ from the usual letters you may receive, but I trust that they will be given equal weight as those gushing reviews you may have come to expect. I want to be here for the long haul and hopefully together we can make that a reality.

Christopher Roesler
Reno, NV

Thanks for the intelligent, well-thought out letter, Christopher. Sorry we chopped a little bit off of it, but we wanted to have enough room to print as many different letters as possible. Like you predicted, Siryn has shown up in the book, but we plan on keeping Deadpool's crossing over into the X-books to almost nothing. After all, the Marvel Universe is a big place, and the X-guys don't inhabit every square inch of it!

As for Deadpool's skin, he certainly thinks it looks quite a bit worse than acne!

Dear *Deadlines*,

Great!! Wonderful!! Skippy!! 'Bout Time!! So, is this the part where I ask the questions?

1) Will Siryn stop by to visit ol' bumpy face?

2) Have you ever thought of "Deadpool vs. the Punisher?" (With bodies flying all over the place!)

3) What did DP mean when he said Blind Alfred was a prisoner?

4) Are the other mercs at the Hellhouse "special" or are they just "regular" killing-people? I mean, DP shot C.P. and yet, C.P. lives.

DEADPOOL #1 was great! Keep 'em coming! By the way, I never won a spelling bee, so how many words did I misspell?

Monte
Houston, TX

Thanks!! Really!! We mean it!! Yeah!! This is the part where your questions get answered (sort of):

1) As you can see, Siryn has shown up to visit ol' bun...er...Deadpool. (Man, we'd never let Pool hear us call him that. You have a death-wish or something?)

2) Deadpool vs. the Punisher, huh? We'll think about it....

3) Blind Al, a prisoner? What are you talki...um... oh, yeah. She *is* a prisoner. Keep reading, maybe someday we'll tell you why. Tee-hee.

4) A "regular" killing-person? Can anyone be a killer and still be considered "regular?" Anyway, yeah, some of the guys at the Hellhouse are "special." As you saw in issue #1, and again in issue #3, C.P.'s body seems to be slightly more malleable than your average person's, doesn't it? He's a really hard guy to hurt. That's why his full name is...oh, yeah. We're not telling. Tee-hee-hee.

Oh, and your spelling was fine, Monte! We can't understand why you've never won a spelling bee!

Dear Deadpool Crew,

Wow! Unbelievable! I'd have to day that DEADPOOL's premiere as an ongoing series made a greater impact on me than the debut of any title, including those of the "I." Not only was Deadpool written true to form, but a perfect balance was attained between background development establishment, of supporting characters and

SEND LETTERS TO:
DEADLINES
c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 PARK AVE. SOUTH
NEW YORK, NY 10016
EMAIL: MARVELMAIL@AOL.COM

EDITOR:
MATT IDELSON

ASSISTANT EDITOR:
PAUL TUTRONE

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
BOB HARRAS

NEXT TIME:
BOY, WOULD 'POOL LIKE TO CRACK KILLBREW ONE. THING IS, THE "GOOD" DOCTOR'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE HIM!
PLUS: WILL LOVE BLOSSOM?
AND: QUALITY TIME, THE T-RAY WAY! WHOO-HOO!

story.

One noteworthy aspect of the story was the way in which Sasquatch was presented. In most cases, the guest-star comes across as being fairly one-dimensional and often could easily be replaced with another hero with little to no difference in plot. It was a nice change to see more concentration than usual placed on the guest. What really impressed me was the fact that Sasquatch was presented as a formidable opponent. Unfortunately, Alpha Flight is too often presented as a joke. It's no small wonder that it wasn't that popular. For those of us that like Alpha Flight, it only serves to anger us and makes the titles (and characters) that denigrate them seem pretentious. Your use of Sasquatch was a welcome respite. Not only was his presence logically explained, but it revealed surprising connections between Deadpool, himself and even Aurora! Well done!

Congratulations on such a successful first issue. Keep up the quality and this reader will be here for the long haul.

Josh Miller
(Address withheld by request)

Don't worry, Josh, we plan on keeping up the quality! Glad you liked the way 'Squatchie was handled. Given Deadpool's connections to Canada's Weapon X project and Department K, it seemed only logical that he would have some kind of history with the members of Canada's super-hero team supreme, Alpha Flight. By the way, for all you ALPHA FLIGHT fans, look for its new ongoing series, coming out this summer!

Dear Deadheads,

I must say that this is one excellent comic! Being a DEADPOOL fan since his appearance in WOLVERINE #88, I was excited to hear about his own monthly series and believe me, this is the best artwork since Joe Madureira. And another thing, the humor is side-splitting! I haven't laughed this much since reading *Bone*. I would like to see Deadpool against Venom. It would be exciting to see them match their might against each other (and their mouths, for that matter)! So until Deadpool gets a makeover, Make Mine Marvel!

Kyle Castanon
Red Way, CA

A makeover?! Gee whiz, Kyle, why does everyone keep making cracks about Wade's looks? We...uh... sure don't see anything wrong with them. Are we...ahem...missing something?

Dear Deadheads,

DEADPOOL #1 is the best comic I've read since GENERATION X #1, and I've read a lot of comics. It also has the same great elements as GEN X: humor, great art, great plot, great story. This comic is great. I have a few questions:

1) Who is Blind Al and what does she have to do with anything?

2) Why is Sasquatch showing up everywhere?

3) What was that thing on Deadpool's back while he was in Antarctica?

I hope to see many more issues. So until Deadpool shuts up, make mine Marvel!

Terry Cover
Edison, OH

Thanks, Terry! Here are a few answers for you:

1) Blind Alfred is Deadpool's prisoner/roommate, and she has lots to do with everything! Keep reading to find out exactly what the heck that means!

2) It's not that 'Squatchie is showing up more often than anyone else, it's just that a big, orange mountain of fur is a lot harder to miss than other folks!

3) That thing on DP's back was the gigundo gun he "acquired" from the revolutionaries at the beginning of the issue, and later used to almost irradiate the entire southern hemisphere by blasting the gamma core!

To the People at *Deadlines*,

Well, you Marvel guys have done it again! First it was GENERATION X—which is one smart comic—and now there's DEADPOOL. I've always had a soft spot for the crazy scar-faced psycho. Well, it's a big shout-out for the DEADPOOL comic from all the Marvel fans in the UK (now that I've said that, I bet someone doesn't like it). Keep up the good work, boys. The artwork's cool, the story line's cool, the whole thing is cool!

David Stoeman!
Ashton-in-Makerfield
ENGLAND

Another face crack. Sheesh. First Deadpool has to make a trip to Houston, then Red Way, and now England! And all on his own time! DP really doesn't mind being called a psycho, David—in fact, he kinda likes it—but, man oh man, why does everyone keep bustin' on his face? Anyway, thanks for the kind words, pal, and uh...Good Luck!

Deadlines,

I purchased the first monthly book of DEADPOOL a day ago, and I have to say... *I love it!!!* He reminds me of my favorite arachnid. Ed McGuinness and Chris Lichtner did a great job. Believe me, I'll be back for more of the new *merc-with-a-monthly!*

Rufus Stokes
Lambert, MS

Thanks for the praise, Rufus! And now, to you and all the other fans out there who didn't make a crack about Deadpool's looks: smart move, folks.